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Assistant Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on OCTOBER 10, 2006 (Date).

Typed or printed name: Rita M. Lynch

Signature: Rita M. Lynch



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William Thomas Carter Jr. et al. : Group Art Unit: 1742

Application No.: 10/749,893 : Examiner: Scott R. Kastler

Filed: December 31, 2003 : Response to: September 12, 2006

For: AN APPARATUS FOR THE PRODUCTION OR
REFINING OF METALS, AND RELATED
PROCESSES

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 121;

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement of September 12, 2006, the referenced application has been effectively divided into two inventions by way of the Restriction Requirement. Group I covers claims 1-36, drawn to an elecroslag cold hearth refining system. Group II, drawn to a method of refining metal, covers claims 37-49. Applicant selects Group I for prosecution, with traverse.